

HIS MAJESTIES
S P E E C H,
DELIVERED THE
Twenty second of *January*,
1 6 4 3.

TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE
TWO HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT
AT
O X F O R D.



BRISTOLL,
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, and JOHN
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lent Majesty: M DC. XLIII.

NEW TESTIES
SPECIALLY

DELIVERED THE
Twenty second of January
1643.

TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE
TWO HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT
AT
OXFORD.



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1643.





HIS MAJESTIES

SPEECH,

Delivered the twenty second

of January 1643.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

When I consider your publique Interests and Concernments in the happynesse and honour of this Nation, and your particular sufferings in this Rebellion, for your Affection, and Loyalty to Me, I must look upon you as the most competent Considerers and Counsellors how to Manage, and improve the Condition we are all in, for sure our condition is so equall, that the same violence hath oppressed Us all.

I have therefore called you together to be witnesses of My Actions, and pray to My Intentions; and certainly if I had the least thought, disagreeing with the happiness and security of this Kingdom, I would not advise with such Counsellors, and I doubt not but your Concurrence with Me will so far prevaile over the hearts and understandings of this whole Kingdom, (who must look upon you as persons naturally and originally trusted by and for them) that it will be above the reach and malice of those who have hitherto had too great an influence upon the People, to discredit My most honest Actions, and sincere Promises; you will be the best witnesses for the one, and security for the other.

Very many of you have bene witnesses with what unwillingness I suffered Myself to take up these defensive Arms; indeed with so great, that I was felt almost in the power of those who in two set battels, have sufficiently informed the world how tender they have been of the safety of My Person. I foresaw not only the rage and oppression which would every day break out.

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out upon My Subjects; as the malice of
these ill men increased, and their purposes
were detected; but also the great inconve-
niences My best Subjects would suffer
even by My own Army, raised and kept for
their preservation and protection; for I
was not so ill a Soldier, as not to foresee
how impossible it was to keep a strict dis-
cipline, I being to struggle with so many de-
fects and necessities; and I assure you, the
sense I have of their sufferings, who de-
serve well of Me, by My forces, hath been
a greater grief to Me then any thing for
My own particular. My hope was, that
either by force on My part, or Repen-
tance on theirs, God would have put a short
end to this great Horn. But Guilt & Despair
have made these Men more wicked, then I
imagine they at first intended to be; for in-
stead of removing and reconciling these
bloody distractions, and restoring Peace to
this languishing Country, they have invited
a foreign Power to invade this King-
dom, and that in your names, and chal-
lenge this Invasion from them as a debt to
the Common-wealth. You (My Lords)

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have,

have, like your selves (as good Patriots) expressed your dissent, and vindicated your selves from that imputation: and I doubt not but you (Gentlemen) will let your Countries know, how far you are from desiring such Assistance, and how absolute and peremptory a breach this raising of Armes of my Scots Subjects is of that Parliamtion, which was so lately and solemnly made by you, and can intend nothing but a Conquest of you and your Lawes. I shall send you all the advertisements I have of that business which is threatened from Scotland, and what is already acted from thence, and shall desire your speedy advice and assistance what is to be said or done, both with reference to this, and that Kingdom.

Our ends being the same, I will take there will be no other difference in the way, then what upon debate and right understanding will be easily advised. Let our Religion (in which we are all most nearly concerned, and without care of which we must not look for Gods blessing) be vindicated and preserved. Let my Honorable and Rights (which you finde to have an inseparable

rable relation With your own Interests) be vindicated and restored; Let your Liberties, Properties, Priviledges (Without which I would not be your King) be secured and confirmed, and there is nothing you can advise me to, I Will not meet you in ; and I doubt not we shall together inform Posterity, how much Our trust and confidence in each other, is a better expedient for the Peace and preservation of the Kingdom, then Feares and Jealousies.

I shall keep you no longer from consulting together, then in telling you, That I have prepared fit places for your Meetings, to which I desire you to repair this night ; assuring you, That I will be alwayes ready to receive any thing from you, admitting you to Me, or coming to you My Self, whensoever you shall desire. And so God direct you the best way.

FINIS.